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Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" May I know whether the public health officers will have lecture halls near the toddy shops ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" There are so many toddy shops all over the presidency and I do not know whether it will be possible to have a lecture hall for every shop."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" May I know whether the Government will give instructions to the agency doing propaganda work as to the lines on which propaganda should be carried on ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Yes ; necessary instructions will be given."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether the Government will supply magic lanterns to the health officers and also the necessary conveyances ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The hon. Member's suggestion is one of the things now under consideration."

Medical

Deaths in the General Hospital under chloroform during 1926–28.

*180 Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state :—

(*a*) for how many years each of the following assistant surgeons have been chloroformists in the General Hospital—

(i) Dr. Govindarajulu Nayudu,
(ii) Dr. Vedavanam,
(iii) Dr. Sivaraman,
(iv) Dr. Appu Mudaliyar,
(v) Dr. Kini ;

(*b*) how many deaths under chloroform occurred during the years 1926, 1927 and 1928 ;

(*c*) how many deaths under chloroform occurred during the term of each of them ;

(*d*) whether any enquiry was held over those deaths ;

(*e*) what steps the Government propose to take to prevent such things in future ; and

(*f*) how many changes were made in the post of the chloroformist during the last two years ?

A.—(*a*)—

(i) Dr. Govindarajulu Nayudu. (ii) Dr. Vedavanam. (iii) Dr. Sivaraman.	No record is available. These officers were assistants to the First Surgeon for several years and during part of this period acted as anæsthetists.
(iv) Dr. Appu Mudaliyar.	From 1st May 1926 to 22nd October 1927.
(v) Dr. Kini ...	From 27th January 1923 to 5th January 1925.

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(b) There were four deaths under chloroform during each of the three years.
(c) The information is not available.
(d) Yes.
(e) If the hon. Member will suggest what additional precautions should be taken to prevent such accidents, the Government will be pleased to consider them ;
(f) Three.

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" May I know from the hon. Minister whether the first three persons who were chloroformists for a long time and then made assistants to the Surgeon left the hospital and the vacancy was filled up by a new man ? Were there not at that time two chloroformists available, one, the former chloroformist who became the assistant to the First Surgeon, and the other a new man ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" If I rightly follow the question of the hon. Member. . . . "

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" I am so sorry, Sir, I will repeat the question. An assistant surgeon in the senior rank was taken and made the chloroformist. He worked for eight or ten years and at the end of that period he was given the post of assistant to the First Surgeon. A new man came to take his place and his services are at any time available for chloroforming in the General Hospital."

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" The hon. Member may be perfectly right in his statement."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" Sir, this was the arrangement. Chloroformists were not sent out of the hospitals frequently. The expert was always available in the hospital in the capacity of another officer. I want to know whether that arrangement exists now."

The hon. the President :—" I think an amendment of the Standing Orders is necessary to enable Dr. Mallayya to put questions in this manner."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" Questions put in the ordinary way are not understood by the hon. the Minister. (Laughter.) To explain the thing to the Minister I have to go a bit out of the way, Sir. You will excuse me."

Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed :—" May I know from the hon. Minister whether the arrangement referred to by Dr. Mallayya is still in vogue in the General Hospital ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" I was not aware of the arrangement referred to by Dr. Mallayya and so I cannot say whether it is there or not."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the men are there for one or two years, mostly junior men, and then shifted at frequent intervals ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" I am not sure if all the men in the General Hospital are junior men. I think that there is at least one of ten years' standing."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" I question that statement, Sir."

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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I have already said that the hon. Member will not be in order."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"I asked the Minister to give me definite information on that point, Sir. May I know why no deaths are reported during the term of the first six men?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I only find five men mentioned."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"There were six men. Deaths occurred after they left the place. I was also there. There were no deaths when they were there. It was when the change was introduced. . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am afraid the hon. Member is exhausting all his materials." (Laughter.)

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"No, Sir. I have plenty still. I want certain facts so that the hon. Minister may come prepared to answer me. The hon. the Revenue Member cannot then say that the Minister had not sufficient notice. I want to know whether the deaths began to occur as a result of frequent changes in the staff."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"The hon. Member has asked for figures for three years 1926, 1927 and 1928 and these have been given. There is no indication in the question about the previous figures."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"Clause (c) of the question asks how many deaths under chloroform occurred during the term of each of them."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"And the answer is that the information is not available."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"The Minister said just now that there is no such question on paper." (Laughter.)

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I would point out to the hon. Member that when the Government say that the information is not available they mean that it is not available in the Secretariat. It is open to the hon. Member to ask whether the Minister will get the information."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"But, on the floor of the House, when the question is there staring him in the face, the Minister says that no such question is there."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"The hon. Member is probably referring to clause (c). He will see from the answer that no record is available as to the deaths which might have occurred then."

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED :—"May I know what the Government is going to do in the matter of preventing deaths when under chloroform?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"If left to themselves they will consider the proposition and do what they are advised to do."

Proposed construction of the Ranipet Hospital.

*181 Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what the grant made by the Government for the construction of the Ranipet Hospital is;